

Skills for a Low Carbon Economy: **what next?**

Climate Change Adaptation and Local Development: The New Imperatives for Green Skills Development

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Overview

- Low Carbon Economy and Climate Change Governance
- Climate Change Adaptation and Local Economic Development
- Expanding Definitions of Green Jobs and Green Skills
- New Economic Growth Theory, Institutional Change and Enabling Policy Framework
- US Perspectives on Green Jobs and Climate Change Adaptation
- Integrating Green Skills, Local Development and Adaptation



Barriers to Green Skills Development

- Barriers to the expansion of green jobs and development of green skills are similar to those that pertain in the areas of adopting green economy, CCG in general and CCA in particular
- Lack of awareness about the full complexity and interdependencies of effective CCG
- Limited coordination across several major departments and entities, across policy making and implementation agencies, and filtering to the local government as well as various public sector units



Barriers to Green Skills Development

- Lack of understanding of the critical minimum thresholds to realize efficiency gains and increasing returns to scale (endogenous growth potential)
- Ineffective implementation of programs due to coordination constraints and lack of training
- Scale of operations too small (in several cases in the US) to depict positive gains that could motivate expansion
- Path dependency of some of the administrative agencies in terms of lack of integration with relevant CCG aspects



Recommendations

1. Scale up successful programs, with the use of cluster-based promotion of green businesses
2. Expand training and skill development mechanisms for workforce as well as employers (public and private) on a larger scale levels that augment adaptive capacity and enhance adaptive efficiency
3. Design green economic strategies with critical elements and their threshold magnitudes to reap the benefits of networking and endogenous economic growth

Recommendations

4.Ensure that climate change adaptation is mainstreamed into green growth strategies and sustainable development

5.Formulate and implement win-win-win strategies for local sustainable development incorporating ingredients of CCG, skills development, and accelerate smooth transition to a green economy

